

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. SERIAL NO: 10/824,648
ATTY. DOCKET NO.: Q80067

than a wide spread beam. The tapered light guide provides an area where the light flux can be evenly averaged and distributed across the proximal end of the emitting area of the light emitting panel by internal reflection.”

The grounds of rejection in this Office Action argue that “the fact that Kraft states that the device is preferably used with the fiber optics or a light pipe does not mean that the device cannot be used with a rod-shaped light or that Kraft teaches away from the present invention.”

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and statement by first noting that the grounds of rejection do not provide any citation to either reference or a reason why one of ordinary skill in the art would use a rod-shaped light in the Kraft device, particularly in view of the teaching of Kraft where the light is highly organized as a flux rather than a wide spread beam (see paragraphs [0037] to [0039] for the description of the tapering and flux of Kraft). Further, Applicants find no distinction where Kraft states that fiber optics or a light pipe are “preferably” used. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that Kraft teaches away from the present invention.

Next, the Examiner alleges that the tetrahedral grooves of Kraft do in fact make up a polyhedral optical deflector. Applicants again respectfully submit the tetrahedron grooves of Kraft correspond to an optical path changing unit 130 of the present invention rather than the polyhedral optical deflector of Claim 1.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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